

TO:

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Director

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Date _____

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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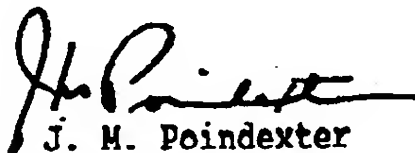
MEMORANDUM FOR The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Secretary of Energy
The Director, Office of Management and Budget
The Director of Central Intelligence
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Director, Arms Control and
Disarmament Agency
The Director, Office of Science and
Technology Policy
The Administrator, National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

SUBJECT: Consultations on the Strategic Defense Initiative

In NSDD-116 the President directed consultations be carried out with the Congress prior to arriving at a final program decision on the strategic defense initiative. Given the short time available, it has been decided that the consultation process should be initiated by asking a few senior officials to contact key members of Congress by telephone to determine their interest and their position on the initiative, and to offer more information if required.

At Tab A you will find a list of assignments. Key points to be made are in the talking points at Tab B. The President is explicitly interested in soliciting Congressional views, and it is important that these views be passed back to the White House as quickly as possible. If it should be necessary, the President will discuss this subject personally with appropriate Senators and Congressmen.

We would appreciate having all calls completed by close of business December 9.



J. M. Poindexter
Deputy Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

cc: The Vice President

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Declassify on: OADR

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Attachments

Tab A List of contacts
Tab B Talking Points

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Officials to be Consulted

<u>Individual</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Senator Howard Baker	Weinberger
The Speaker of the House	"
Senator Robert Byrd	"
Senator John Tower	"
Representative Mel Price	"
Representative Bill Dickinson	"
Senator Ted Stevens	"
Senator John Stennis	"
Senator Malcolm Wallop	"
Senator Sam Nunn	McFarlane
Senator John Warner	"
Former President Nixon	"
Former President Ford	"
Former President Carter	"
Representative Robert Michel	Thayer
Representative Jim Wright	"
Senator Strom Thurmond	"
Representative Joe Addabbo	"
Representative Jack Edwards	"
Senator Barry Goldwater	"
Senator James McClure	Hodel
Senator Charles Percy	Dam
Senator Larry Pressler	"
Senator Claiborne Pell	"
Representative Dante Fascell	"
Representative William Broomfield	"
Senator Jake Garn	Beggs
Representative Edward Boland	"
Representative Don Fuqua	"
Senator Slade Gorton	"

TELEPHONE CONSULTATIONS STRATEGY

The President has asked you to make these calls to ascertain three pieces of information:

- o Is the Senator/Congressman interested in the President's initiative?
- o If he is interested, what is his position on it?
- o Does he need more information?

After the call is completed, please have your office pass what you discern to Bob Helm at 395-6923.

If it is at all possible, we wish to avoid sending a briefing team to visit the Member/Senator in his district or State. Our talking points include the offer of a full briefing in Washington once Congress reconvenes. If it is desired, we do have a four-page unclassified fact sheet which can be mailed out to the district or State. If the Member/Senator is adamant, we can arrange to have a briefing team visit him.

Talking Points

- The President asked me to call to seek your views privately on a matter of some importance. I would ask that you hold this conversation in confidence.
- You will recall that last March the President called for a major review of whether defense against ballistic missiles could be developed.
- As a result, two major studies were conducted during the summer and fall to examine all aspects of this question. The results, which now have been forwarded to the President, are:
 - o The emergence of powerful new technologies leads us to believe that with further development, defense against ballistic missiles is indeed possible.
 - o A defense against ballistic missiles can increase both deterrence and stability and complement the goals of our START and INF negotiations.
 - o The extensive Soviet BMD program cannot be ignored; unilateral Soviet deployment of an effective BMD would have disastrous consequences.
 - o A vigorous R&D program, broadly based but highly result-oriented, should be pursued.
 - o The goal will be development and demonstration of technical feasibility leading to future options on eventual deployment.
 - o The proposed program is not:
 - considering deployment in the near future
 - abandoning the doctrine of deterrence/flexible response
 - massively expensive (will largely redirect existing programs).
 - o The proposed R&D effort would not be in conflict with the ABM Treaty or any other treaty obligations.
- Based on this, it has been recommended that the President modify the FY 85 Defense Budget submission--which will be formally submitted to the Congress in January--to increase the emphasis on research and development devoted to defense against ballistic missiles. Before modifying the budget, however, the President wanted you to be informed, and wanted to know your reactions.
- Should you desire it, we are prepared to provide you with a briefing on this initiative on your return to Washington. In addition we will, of course, address the matter during the normal course of hearings on the DOD budget submission.